



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI/2023/8897

Date Received: 15th May 2023

Response Due: 13th June 2023

Date: 23rd May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

Questionnaire (FOI request)

Completion notes

All questions are related to laboratory structure and work completed during the calendar years indicated (full year) unless otherwise indicated.

All questions relate to histopathology only (including routine immunohistochemistry) – please do not include details for Cytology, molecular pathology or any other disciplines unless otherwise stated.

Questions relate to four key concepts and seek to examine how these have changed over time:

- Workloads
- Staffing
- Turnaround times
- Budgets

It is hoped that this may help highlight the increasing pressures being experienced by histology laboratories throughout the UK.

Please complete all questions where possible – if precise data is unavailable, please provide an estimate (stating that data is an estimate plus likely error margin expressed as a percentage).

If unable to complete all questions, please provide a partial response (just completing the data that you can).

If you are unable to provide data on any of the questions, please note this in the free text area provided for comments against each question.

Section 1: Respondent laboratory and commissioning

Q1: Please provide details of the location of the laboratory responsible for completing your histology workloads, as well as the district that you served for the years indicated.

Laboratory: This should be the name/location of the laboratory completing most of your histology workloads – if your histology work is completed by a different hospital, please indicate this.

District: Please indicate the unitary authority, county, metropolitan district, non-metropolitan district, integrated care board, or other authority that commissions NHS services from your hospital.

Should you be unable to provide details for any of the years indicated please note this in the free text comments box.

YEAR	LABORATORY	DISTRICT	FREE TEXT COMMENTS
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			

Section 2: Histology workloads

Q2: Please provide details of histology workloads (total cases/total slides) for the years indicated. For slides this should be the total volume including special stains and immunohistochemistry, but should not include cytology, if these cannot be easily filtered out, please indicate this in the free text box. Should you be unable to provide this data for any of the years indicated please indicate this in the free text box. If providing an estimated response, please note this (along with likely error factor expressed as a percentage) in the free text comments box.

YEAR	TOTAL CASES	TOTAL SLIDES	FREE TEXT COMMENTS
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			

Section 3: Histology staffing

Q3: Please provide details of the histology staffing for the years indicated (full time equivalents). This should only be those staff involved in histology, but may include admin staff (e.g., secretaries) if they play a significant role in the completion of the histology workload. This is divided into two areas (laboratory and support/reporting). This should be a total of staff in post only and should not include unfilled vacancies.

Laboratory and support (LAB): Those staff involved in the preparation of laboratory samples – including admin and quality support roles – this should include histology secretaries, medical laboratory assistants, biomedical scientists, this should also include any laboratory senior staff/managers in histology.

Reporting (REP): This should include those staff involved in the preparation of histology reports; this should include pathologists, registrars, clinical scientists, and consultant biomedical scientists.

Where staff numbers have changed through a calendar year (e.g., new staff recruited/staff leaving), please provide an approximate average and note this in the comments box. Should you be unable to provide this data for any of the years indicated please indicate this in the free text box. If providing an estimated response, please note this (along with likely error factor expressed as a percentage) in the free text comments box.

YEAR	LAB STAFF (FTE)	REP STAFF (FTE)	FREE TEXT COMMENTS
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			

Sections 4: Histology turnaround times

Q4: Please provide details of turnaround times (TATs) for histology for the years indicated. There are two response options for each year; average histology TAT in days, and % of cases reported in 10 days. Please provide both data sets where possible, however, where this is not possible, please note this in the free text comments box. The TAT response should always be from the date the sample was collected to the date when the initial diagnostic report was authorised/released. This data should be for histology only, however, if your data includes NG-Cytology, please just note this in the free text comments. Should you be unable to provide this data for any of the years indicated please indicate this in the free text box. If providing an estimated response, please note this (along with likely error factor expressed as a percentage) in the free text comments box.

YEAR	AVERAGE HISTOLOGY TAT IN DAYS	% OF HISTOLOGY CASES REPORTED IN 10 DAYS	FREE TEXT COMMENTS
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			

Section 5: Histology budgets

Q 5: Please provide details on histology budgets for the years indicated, this should be the total budget for delivering histopathology services in the years indicated. If other services such as NG-Cytology are included as part of this budget, and it is not possible to separate them please indicate this in the free text comments. Should you be unable to provide this data for any of the years indicated please indicate this in the free text box. If providing an estimated response, please note this (along with likely error factor expressed as a percentage) in the free text comments box.

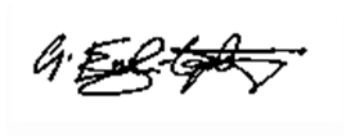
YEAR	HISTOPATHOLOGY BUDGETS	FREE TEXT COMMENTS
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		
2019		
2020		
2021		
2022		

We do not hold this information.

This information should be held by Salford Royal NHS FT. Please submit a request to them by emailing FOIrequest@srft.nhs.uk or informationsecurity&dataprotection@srft.nhs.uk,

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ged English-Gallantry', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Ged English-Gallantry
Information (Data) Governance Manager

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111